

FRESH FIRE MINISTRIES

This is a two-part teaching entitled, *The Power of Prophetic Decrees*. Part 1 will help you understand why God gives us prophetic words, visions, and revelations, and examines and uncovers those things that hinder the fulfillment of God's prophetic word in our lives. Many are missing the mark of their calling, and the words that have come to us from God remain unfulfilled. Next week's Part 2 teaching will continue with the quest for success in appropriating what God has promised us. We'll learn how to war for our words, and how we can effectively shoot prophetic arrows into the heavens to "scatter the demonic cohorts."

THE POWER OF PROPHETIC DECREES

BY TODD BENTLEY

PART 1

How many prophetic promises and words spoken over your life have you yet to see birthed? Every believer has prophetic promises from heaven—whether God has revealed something that we would accomplish for Him, something that we would become, or something that we would see Him do in our lifetime. Prophetic words are authoritative words that Scripture says we would "do well to pay attention to" (2 Peter 1:19).

Countless believers have waited years to realize the fulfillment of prophetic words spoken over them, or revelations from visions or dreams. Do you ever wonder what to do with them, how to act upon them, or how to ensure the fulfillment of them in your life or ministry? How do we bring the words of the Lord to pass? What hinders the fulfillment of them?

WHAT'S THE DELAY?

Some blame the delay on the prophet or the person who delivered the word, and others blame themselves. Sadly, many give up believing their promises. However, delay in the fulfillment of a heavenly word spoken over you may have everything to do with the enemy—opposing, dark, spiritual forces determined to sabotage your destiny. Then the delay does have something to do with us, for the delay is in our lack of response. We give up waiting or we don't determine that "word" really was for us, and give up on the vision. We don't do what God has called us to do because our mindsets aren't in line with the potential God gives us. We're not responding by pulling from heaven "those things that be not as though they were."

SEE THE INVISIBLE BY THE EYE OF FAITH

There are things that have always been in the eternal purpose of God, it's just that they're not in our natural realm yet. But the promises of God have always been in the Father's heart, even before the foundation of the world. Everything we need in the natural to do what God has called us to do is available in the invisible realm.

We must learn how to see the promises of God in the invisible by the eye of faith, embrace it in the invisible, and bring it to the earth. Embrace, confess, and declare God's promises into the heavens!

REVOLUTIONIZE YOUR LIFE

Friends, grab hold of this truth. Prophetic decrees made into the heavens have the power to revolutionize your life! Heavenly prophetic decrees and proclamations hasten the fulfillment of God's word over your life. They're powerful! They thwart the plans of the enemy and accelerate the birth and fulfillment of every prophetic promise and revelation spoken over you!

When I learned how to make prophetic decrees and proclamations in my own life, God was able to do a whole lot a whole lot faster in me and through me. Recently, the Lord showed me that through our prophetic decrees, He also releases angels to battle the forces of the enemy to bring us what is rightfully ours! That's part of their job description!

I hope to give some insight in this teaching on how you can make prophetic decrees and proclamations into the heavens, which will hasten and bring to pass the Word of the Lord. I want you to understand your responsibility with God-given promises and visions and how you can partner with God to realize your destiny.

UNDERSTANDING HEAVENLY REVELATIONS

Let's look at a passage in the gospel of Matthew that speaks of our responsibility with the Word of the Lord:

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven." And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matt. 16:13–19)

Take note of one thought in this passage: "Peter, flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven." Peter's revelation came from heaven. You may also have received divine inspiration like Peter—a prophetic word, a vision or, perhaps, an illumined scripture from God. Maybe a prophet called you out and prophesied over you or God spoke to you through television, radio, or a dream.

THE ROCK OF REVELATION

Prophetic words and promises are personal, specific to our lives as individuals, our families, or our ministries. They may also be intended for cities, regions, peoples, and nations. They are always in line with the Word, the Bible right from Genesis through to Revelation. However, I want to focus primarily on those words that God has given to us personally, those rhema words. Rhema words and God's Word are a powerful combination that can activate our divine destiny.

Let's look again at Jesus' next words to Peter in Matt 16: "I say to you Peter, 'on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it'" (v. 18). Now what does Jesus mean by the words "on this rock"? The Catholic Church accepts that phrase to mean Peter and his ministry, while others think it refers to the apostles. However, I don't believe Peter or the apostles are the rock. I believe Jesus is saying, "Upon this rock—the rock of revelation I am building... upon the rock of being able to hear what your Father in heaven is saying. Flesh and blood has not revealed this unto you. Upon that rock I shall build My church."

In the book of Jeremiah, the Bible also tells us that the purpose of the Lord is to build you and not pull you down, plant you and not pluck you up (Jer. 24:6; 42:10). So, when God gives you a heavenly revelation, it's to build

you and plant you. It's to build and plant something in you and through you. It's to build, plant, loose, birth, and bring to pass His Word with the help of the Holy Ghost. Conversely, there are some things we have to tear down in the spirit—those forces opposing the fulfillment of God's Word.

KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

Later in Matthew 16 Jesus says, "Peter, I've given you the keys—the keys to the kingdom" (v. 19). Do you know what the keys are? They are every prophetic word that you have, yes, every revelation you have ever received. Some of us in the Body of Christ run around with a keychain full of keys, like a janitor with keys jingling wherever we go. Maybe you have a whole lot of keys on your key chain. Perhaps you don't even know which one fits which lock! Sure, you used to know, but many of those keys have been there a long time, so long that you don't even know what they're for anymore. Why have fifty keys on your keychain if you only use a few?

PROPHETIC KEYS UNLOCK HEAVEN

Every time we receive a prophetic word, we add a key to our ring—it's a key to the kingdom, your kingdom. It's a key to a destiny. It's a key for you to open up the heavens and loose things in heaven so what God said about you in heaven can come to pass on the earth. With that destiny word, you can build or pull down, plant or pluck up and bring the destiny to its fulfillment. That is what we're supposed to be using the keys for. How many keys are you carrying?

IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BIRTH HIS WORD

Properly learn how to use the keys handed to you through visions, dreams, or words from the Lord. That's what Jesus taught Peter. The Lord's message was: "Peter these are keys. I just gave you a key called "revelation." With that key, you have a responsibility to open up the Kingdom of Heaven so that revelation can come to pass."

Rest assured that God usually only shows you something He wants you to have now, not fifty years from now. Yes, He has a timetable, but I don't believe His intention is to dangle a carrot on a string in front of your nose! I don't believe He works that way. Delays often happen not because of the prophet, or because of "God's timing," or the devil, but because of ourselves. When God speaks to us, He's not asking us to believe that we can. He's trying to change our identity so that we will. When He gives us a prophetic word, it becomes potential. It becomes a desire that He plants in us. It's a key to bring our destiny to pass.

We have a responsibility to birth God's prophetic Word and promises. When God speaks something for us, He is releasing potential in us; He's giving us a key to unlock that possibility. But we must posture ourselves to realize that potential.

The fulfillment of prophetic words is conditional, in as much as we are required to respond and take certain steps of obedience. I believe that once we get to heaven, we'll discover how much more God had for us in this life that we never realized or saw to fruition. Many Christians wonder why their dreams are not yet fulfilled. They have good intentions, but never walk out what God has for them. God's reason for giving us these revelatory keys is to excite, edify, and encourage us to press on toward the mark; they are filled with possibility.

DANIEL BIRTHED HIS PROPHETIC WORD

Consider Daniel. He had a revelation while he was reading the book of Jeremiah (Daniel 9:2). As he read, God came along, breathed on the Scripture and said, “Daniel, what Jeremiah prophesied about the Babylonian captivity—that’s *your* generation. You are about to come out of Babylonian captivity after 70 years.”

Daniel didn’t just proclaim the news; he birthed it through fasting and prayer (Daniel 10). He grabbed hold of it, responded, and became involved in God’s Word. God said it and so now, he needed to lay hold of what He said.

As Daniel, we must also birth these prophetic words of God. It’s not a matter of, “Well, God said it, so He’s going to do it . . . His sovereignty will bring it to pass . . . I’m just going to wait and see.” The prophet delivers God’s potential for us, why stone the prophet if things don’t happen? The purpose of the prophetic is to stir and cause destiny to come alive in you so you’ll become passionate about the potential God planted in you.

Daniel hears God’s promise of release from Babylonian captivity and he says, “Ok. Now I need to do my part. It’s not just good enough that God spoke. I need to pray and fast it through.” What if he’d said, “Well, perhaps God didn’t really mean anything by this . . . I’m not sure it’s going to happen. It’s not happening! If it was God, it should have happened already! I mean, God said it!” No, Daniel didn’t give up—he kept praying and after twenty-one days Michael the archangel appeared and (in effect) said, “Daniel, come over here for a minute. Let me tell you something. God heard you on the first day. But you see... we ran into some opposition in heaven called the Prince of Persia. The enemy didn’t want you to receive what God wanted you to have twenty-one days ago, so there was a delay in the spirit.”

DELAYS IN THE SPIRIT -- THE DEVIL'S TACTICS

It’s not that the Word wasn’t of God. It’s not that the prophet was wrong. But there was a delay in the spirit. Think about your prophetic promises—there might be some devils today holding back what is rightfully yours. There is a Prince of Persia in the spiritual realm. I want you to know that God heard you the first day. You should have seen the fulfillment five years ago, but it hasn’t come yet. It’s not God. It’s not you. It’s the devil resisting your destiny, tying it up in the spirit. If it happened to Daniel, it can happen to us. God had to send Michael to battle through that Prince of the enemy. Let me tell you something—if the devil came against Jesus and against Moses, he is warring against all of God’s people. The devil wants to kill every move of God in its infancy. He wants to discourage you right when you get saved or right when you get healed. He wants to try taking God’s blessings from you.

Back when God’s people were captive in Egypt, Satan knew something was going on—he knew the prophetic words of Joseph, and that they would return to the land of which God swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob (Gen. 50:24). So when Moses was born Satan said, “We need to issue a decree. We need to kill all the male children under two-years old. We are going to kill him.” That’s when God had to orchestrate the deliverance of the baby Moses. After that attempt on Moses’ life, the devil tried the same tactic on Jesus (Matt. 2:16) and according to Revelation 12:17, “The dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” That’s you and I! Satan knows that God has a plan for us. Satan has a plan of destruction—he is not just going to lie down, roll over, and let you be what God wants you to be. He is working overtime to distract you and to delay the fulfillment of your promises. He is working overtime to sideline you or to kill, steal and destroy in your life.

Satan has assigned demonic cohorts in the spiritual realm to keep you from finding the revelation of God’s will. And when you do find it, he stirs up a whole lot of mess to get you so distracted that you can’t really press on “toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:14). He is trying to get you into debt and into immoral relationships—he’ll try any way he can to mess up your life.

RESPOND TO THE WORD

You have a place of destiny which is fully released as you respond, build, and plant. How you respond; what you do or don't do with what God gives you, can determine your destiny.

God does not change; however, He will adjust His decrees to fit our response. There are decrees and promises He has made that do not change, such as the covenant with Israel and His new covenant with us (John 6:37–40, 44). There are others that He has adjusted, such as Abraham's plea for Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 18), and the sparing of Nineveh (Jonah 3:1–10). God will adjust His responses to ours just as we adjust our responses to God's.

Abraham changed God's mind, and so did Jonah. Remember the story of Abraham. God said something like this: "Get out of my way Abraham; I'm coming down to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah." Then Abraham replied: "No way, God—c'mon, if there is just fifty righteous... forty righteous... twenty righteous... how about ten righteous?" (Genesis 18). There is a place where you can barter with God, friends. What God said about you is not a guarantee.

Consider the life of Jonah. If it was true that what God says will happen and that we have nothing to do with it, then Jonah would have just rolled over and said, "Well, if God says He's coming down and bringing destruction and judgment to Nineveh, that's it—too bad for them. God said it so what can I do about it. God said it; it's got to happen!" Actually, Jonah ran from God because He knew that God would restrain His judgment if the people repented—and Jonah didn't want that. Eventually Jonah did deliver the word of God in Nineveh and the people repented. God did change His mind. Therefore, the Word must have been dependent on the actions of the people.

THE RELEASE OF THE SPIRITUAL WARFARE

There are Princes of Persia in the spiritual realm working to prevent you coming into the revelation and reality of your destiny. Something that God wanted to give you twenty-one days ago may be tied up—we need to release spiritual warfare and pray: "My God, I ask for the angelic host to resist the enemy's assignments that are keeping back what you promised me in the area of my finances. Now Father I ask that they would bring me my answer."

Scripture tells us that we don't wrestle against flesh and blood, but demonic powers and principalities (Ephesians 6:12). Our spiritual eyes must be open so that we can see what is going on in the heavens. There is not a devil under every bush, but there are more devils under bushes than many Christians are willing to admit. I'm not looking for demons. I don't have to look for them. They are there and I'm aware of them. I know that they want to destroy me but I'm neither afraid of them nor focused on them. I know who I am in Christ.

In Part 2, we'll learn how to war for our words and shoot prophetic arrows into the heavens to scatter the enemy.

"LET IT BE TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD"

Know your authority, and be vigilant. Even Mary understood this principle regarding prophetic words. After her prophetic word from the angel she responded and prophetically decreed, "Let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). She lined herself up with the Word from heaven, pulled it out of the spiritual realm into existence, and birthed it.

FRESH FIRE MINISTRIES

This week's teaching is Part 2 of *The Power of Prophetic Decrees*, by Todd Bentley. Part 1 helped us understand why God gives us prophetic words, visions, and revelations. We also examined and uncovered hindrances to the fulfillment of God's prophetic word in our lives. In this teaching, we will continue the quest for success in appropriating what God has promised us. We'll develop what it means to build and plant God's revelation, learn how to lay hold of our miracles, and war for our "words." Are you ready to shoot prophetic arrows into the heavens?

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BY TODD BENTLEY

PART 2: CONCLUSION

There's no mistaking it—Satan has devised a plan of destruction against us. How often have we battled sickness, death, come up short, fought poverty, lack, desolation, or lost sight of our dreams or our divine destiny? However, God has already spoken victory concerning our circumstances. When we make a prophetic decree, we come into agreement with His Word.

ESTABLISH YOUR DESTINY

God's Word says that what we decree becomes established—in essence it becomes a *foundation* upon which to build, establish, and fulfill our destiny: "Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways" (Job 22:28, KJV).

Prophetic decrees empower us to release power. Prophetic proclamations unlock and birth our destiny and the revelations, visions, and dreams God has given us. The power of God's Word through a prophetic decree will set the captive free, conquer sickness and disease, build, and restore God's church, and release wealth and prosperity, spiritual and temporal abundance. We can reverse every decree the enemy has made concerning our lives by issuing a new decree. The devil says you can't, God says you can! The devil says you won't, God says you will! Proclaim what God says about you into the heavens. Take authority over things in the spirit that come against what God has already said about you, call out your miracles, and watch your destiny unfold.

God gave me revelations that helped birth our entire ministry! Before I entered into ministry, He taught me how we, as Spirit-filled believers, can receive mysteries in the spirit—take things out of the invisible through God's creative power—and transfer them onto the earthly scene to fulfill our destiny!

Concerned that it might sound a bit "New Age?" Don't worry. We'll lay out sound biblical principles! (For your reference, what I term *making a prophetic decree* is the process of *speaking things into existence*.)

JUDGE AND MAKE WAR IN HEAVEN

“Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.” (Rev. 19:11-16)

First, I want you to see that the apostle John experienced this revelation when “heaven opened.” It’s evident that judgment and war happen there. This man, “Faithful and True” used the Word of God to wage this heavenly war: “And out of his mouth goes a sharp sword.” Hallelujah. That sharp sword is the *rhema* word of God, heavenly revelation.

In the same way, we must learn how to receive and employ God’s Word and God’s spoken revelation for our life, to judge and make war in the heavens. We also must learn to resist the forces of darkness that oppose our destiny so that we can bring His words to pass.

On the last day of a three month visitation and soaking season (there were days I’d spend four to twelve hours with the Lord), Pat Cocking, a woman with an international ministry who’d heard about me, invited me to share a ten-minute testimony at a women’s conference. Although she didn’t know me, she had heard of my salvation out of a world of drugs and immoral lifestyle, and about my transformation and awesome soaking times filled with visions and angelic visitations. Perhaps she thought I could encourage Moms with wayward children, by my testimony, that there would still be hope for their children because nothing is impossible with God. However, for whatever message of hope she felt I might give her conference attendees, I decided to wait upon the Lord to determine His will in preparation for the short engagement. It was not at all unlike me to lay out under the power for eight or more hours before I did anything for the Lord, even if it was a short speaking engagement.

LOOSE GOD’S WILL

When I awoke on the morning of the meeting, the Lord led me to pray in the spirit, “I want you to pray in tongues, Todd.” A very heavy burden dropped on me. I prayed in tongues for another twenty minutes or so and then all of a sudden, my brain kicked in, and I felt as though I was laying hold of something tangible in the heavens and it was as though a big city came down. I sensed I was about to lay hold of my destiny! Then I remembered something Kenneth Copeland had said a few weeks earlier on television, something about praying mysteries through and receiving them. As I realized that I was praying a mystery into being, my mind argued with my spirit, “This is retarded. You’re not doing anything. Just forget about it.” Suddenly I heard a moan from the bedroom. My wife had woken from a dream. I ran into the bedroom and Shonnah blurted out, “Hey! Do you know what just happened to me? I had a dream. I was walking on the beach praying in tongues when someone walked up to me and said, ‘What are you doing? Why are you praying in tongues? Then I turned around and said, “I don’t know, but it is the right thing to do.””

After describing her dream in more detail, my wife rolled over and went right back to sleep. Realizing that God had confirmed what He was doing in me, and what I was to do, I returned to the living room and continued to “lay hold” of heaven for another four hours. Two hours into it, I felt my destiny released—heaven and earth shook and something birthed. In a small, still voice, God said, “Oh, by the way, Todd, if you don’t do what I am about to tell you to do, what I want to do tonight won’t happen.”

I didn’t understand. “God, what do you mean?” I asked. “I want you to loose the givers to give,” the Lord replied, “I want you to loose people right now from demonic powers so that they will give into the offering tonight and bless you.” My reaction was something like, “God, it’s a women’s conference. I’m not a main speaker—it’s a ten-minute deal. You mean that?”

“Yes.”

“Oh, ok.” Then I prayed, broke spiritual hindrances, and loosed God's will in heaven to release it on Earth.

BIRTH YOUR MIRACLES

Next, the Lord said, “Watch what I am going to do tonight—the way that I am going to come in power. See the miracles that are going to happen. I want you to loose those miracles right now. In fact, I want you to call in people that you are going to need for ministry, to volunteer themselves in the day of My power. I want you to birth the laborers right now. I want you to birth your employees; I want you to birth the administration level of your ministry.”

I said, “God, I’m working at the mill pulling lumber off the green chain! What are you talking about?” Still praying in tongues throughout our exchange, I felt that I was calling into existence what I would be in twenty years. God said that if I didn’t make these decrees and proclamations into the heavens, my destiny would not come to pass. So I answered, “Ok God, I’ll do it.” I took authority over the devil and told him what God told me and what God said would happen. This birthing process lasted for four hours. Finally, the Lord came down and walked right into the room. It was very real.

He said, “Todd, tonight I am going to speak to Pat Cocking in the middle of her revival service and completely change the direction of the meeting. Acts 13:2 is going to happen to you tonight” (*“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them’”*). God continued, “. . . then Pat Cocking is going to lay hands on you, take up an offering, and ordain you into the ministry.”

I thought, *What? No way!* I went to the meeting, and my allotted ten minutes turned into an hour! A woman received healing of cancer, and two hundred women were laid out under the power of God! Pat arose out of her chair and said, “You know what? This doesn’t usually happen . . . but the Lord just told me that I need to take up an offering tonight, and that we need to lay hands on this young man. We need to ordain him into the ministry tonight!”

Everything unfolded as the Lord had shown me it would. Some of the helpers I had birthed in the spirit were there, at that meeting! A man, “Shanee,” who counted the offering that day, came on as a full-time staff member for Fresh Fire as a travel partner and administrator. Bonnie, who eventually became our full-time intercessor for Fresh Fire, was also in that meeting. Greg, also there, became a financial supporter and travel partner who traveled all over the world with me, moving in signs, wonders, and miracles. Pat said, “If you really believe in this young guy, you need to make a commitment to pray for him.” Greg, and multitudes that day, stood up to commit to pray for me. So here, the Lord singled out three people in the crowd whom I didn’t even know, in fulfillment of the birthing of my ministry.

Here were the supporters and the starting funds for putting everything in place for my ministry—everything I’d birthed in my prayer closet, God provided. Who would have thought that God would assemble something so divine?

MAKE WITHDRAWALS FROM GOD’S RESOURCES

Today, if God shows me that He is about to do something, I go home and lay hold of it. Every miracle God used me for, I birthed in my bedroom at three o’clock in the morning. I’d already healed the sick for two years before healings actually manifested! In prayer, in the spirit, I saw myself laying hands on the sick, and the sick being healed before they happened in the natural. It’s important to build and plant God’s revelation. We need to pray those words through in the spirit and loose them in heaven so they’ll be loosed on Earth. The Bible speaks about calling forth those things that are not, as though they already existed. Yes, God is before time, but it’s not

just about predestination. The Lamb was slain before the foundation of the world. Although everything that God has said in the spiritual realm really exists, He wants us to call forth those things into the tangible, temporal, natural world. However, these things always were, and are, in the eternal purpose of God.

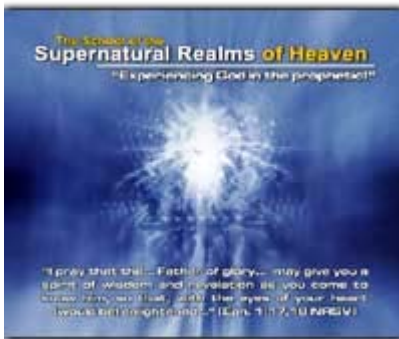
When I realized these truths, I said, "Wow! Everything I have need of and everything that God wants me to do is in heaven!" It's in heaven now. It's always been in heaven. It's in the eternal purposes of God. We just need to take our divine ATM debit card, insert it into the heavenly realm, and punch in the pin number. Hallelujah! Whatever you ask for in prayer, believing, you shall receive it! (Mark 11:24)

We need to make withdrawals from the resources of God to be what God has called us to be. God doesn't just drop it out of the heavenly pie in the sky, though. We need to fast and pray for a while. Get out your ATM card, access heaven, and make a withdrawal.

PRODUCT ADVERTISEMENT

This teaching is one of many featured in:

The School Of The Supernatural Realms Of Heaven - By Todd Bentley



The Supernatural Realms of Heaven: Experiencing God in the Prophetic - This exciting new school by Todd Bentley and Fresh Fire Ministries combines teaching on prophetic ministry with instruction on how to engage the revelatory realm of Heaven. During this course Todd will teach and impart prophetic gifting to each student in faith that takes this course. Todd's goal is to share and impart everything that he has learned and experienced in the realm of the prophetic.

The lessons contained in this extraordinary school are as follows:

Reality Of The Supernatural; Ministering Under An Open Heaven; How To Stir Up The Spirit Of Wisdom And Revelation; The Purposes Of God;

Angelic Hosts; Prophets Versus Prophetic; Levels Of Prophetic Revelation; Prophetic Activation; Realms Of The Supernatural; Third Heaven; Soaking; Prophetic Decrees; Confronting The Spirit Of Leviathan; The Seven Spirits Of God; Throne Room Encounters; Seasons Of Prophetic Destiny.



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ARROWS OF LIFE OR ARROWS OF DEATH?

Prophetic decrees are used for the sake of the kingdom—to destroy works of the enemy or to release life to God's people. However, what we say or decree can also wreak havoc on innocent lives, including our own. They are bitter words spoken in secret about others: or about oneself. They are negative words of gossip, slander, malice, or criticism. King David in Psalm 64:1–4 alludes that our mouth is the bow, and our words are the arrow. See here what he says about bitter words:

Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation; preserve my life from fear of the enemy. Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the rebellion of the workers of iniquity, who sharpen their tongue like a sword, and bend their bows to shoot their arrows—bitter words, that they may shoot in secret at the blameless... (Psalm 64:1-4)

Be careful what you say about people in secret, or behind their backs, because negative words are deadly. They slaughter the innocent, the blameless. Even words about yourself, like, "I can't do anything right" or, "I'm so stupid" open the doors for the enemy. In fact, demonic powers, the kingdom of darkness enforce negative and bitter words, to destroy lives. It's no wonder Proverbs warns us that death and life are in the power of the tongue (Prov. 18:21).

Release arrows of life to bring healing, prosperity, and blessing into lives. Say good things about others, declare into the heavens what God says about them. God also wants you to speak out what He has said about you in His word or through prophetic promises to you.

ACTIVATE THE POWER OF GOD'S PROMISES

Through prophetic decrees, we can speak things into existence as long as God has already promised those things in Scripture or through a prophetic word. When we receive a word from God, we now have the authority to lay hold of it by faith. We can release arrows of life by speaking about healing. By speaking over our body, and speaking over others what the Bible says about miracles, we are activating the power of God's promises—we are enforcing things in heaven. Hallelujah! The bow is your mouth. The arrows of the Lord are words. God uses your arrows to deliver you from your foe.

OUR VICTORY IS IN HEAVEN

What has God said about you? Proclaim it into the heavens so the devil can hear and tremble. He's trying to keep you from your blessings! Take authority over anything that opposes your calling. What we do or don't do makes or breaks our prophetic word, because everything we have need of originates in heaven. That's where our victory is! When we act, when we loose the Word and God's promises, we bring it to Earth, and into our lives, our homes, our ministries. What has God said about you—about your ministry, about your family, your business? Believe these truths and contend for them with your arrows, your words from your mouth.

DECREES CARRY WEIGHT

Dictionaries describe a decree as an authoritative order having the force of law. It's a ruling, an announcement, a declaration, a verdict, a judgment, an order, or a pronouncement. It is to decide with authority, and usually a legally binding command. Decrees are associated with authority and power. Decrees in the natural, occur all of the time, especially in government, or in courts. In ancient times, most decrees were royal orders, proclaimed publicly by criers (Jonah 3:5-7) or designated "heralds" (Dan. 3:4), often throughout the territory of the monarch (1 Samuel 11:7, Ezra 1:1). Decrees were written and stored in archives for later reference (Ezra 6:1, 2), as in the case of King Cyrus's decree to rebuild God's house. King Darius found the scroll that recorded Cyrus's decree, and then issued a decree for advancing the building of God's house. King Cyrus made the original decree, and Darius added his own authority and power to back it up for the perfecting of that work (Ezra 6:6–12).

The king planned to release the money from his treasury so that the Jews, those returning from captivity, could rebuild the house of God. In effect, the King's message relayed this warning to anyone opposing or challenging his decree, "If anyone tries to alter this decree . . . remember that I am King. My word carries weight! Whoever alters this decree shall be hung on the rafter of his house. Let his house be as a refuse heap and a dunghill. Let that happen to anyone who attempts to come against this decree." In ancient times, people would never defy the

decree of a king because they would pay for their disobedience with their lives. Even today, there are consequences for breaking that which is decreed to be the law of the land.

KNOW YOUR AUTHORITY

Now, if natural decrees are that powerful, how much more powerful are spiritual decrees? Scripture calls New Testament believers “priests and kings” of the Most High God (1 Peter 2:5; Rev. 1:4–6). In many societies, there is no higher calling than to be a priest or king. Yet that is what God has called each of us as believers to be. “You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:5). We are as a kingdom of priests with Christ as High Priest and King of Kings over all.

In Israel, priests and kings were divinely appointed, appointed by God, not elected or self-appointed. After being chosen, God delegated them with authority, with the power to act on His behalf for the good of the people.

As believers, divinely appointed priests and kings of God’s Kingdom, delegated with His authority, what do you think happens when we actually decree into the spiritual realm and make known the manifold wisdom of God to demonic powers and principalities? The enemy cannot invade our house. The angelic hosts of heaven and Jesus Himself will backup our decrees—those that line up with His scriptural or revelatory words to us.

You have been given kingly anointing and authority; you’ve been made to sit in heavenly places (Eph. 2:6). Every demon in hell trembles at your words when you know your position in Christ! They know that behind everything you say is the authority of heaven and Jesus Christ. The angels of God will come and arrest them. God releases angels to carry out His word in your life when you release the Word into heaven. This, my friends, is spiritual warfare.

The enemy knows if you’re unsure of your authority. If you are uncertain of whom you are in Christ, then get sure! Ask God for a revelation of who you are in Christ and receive that certainty that He, the hope of glory, lives in you. Here are some scripture verses to boost your confidence: John 1:12; 15:15; Romans 5:1; 8:28; 8:31–39; 1 Cor. 6:17; Eph. 1:3–8; Eph. 2:10, 3:12; Col. 1:13, 14; 2:9, 10; Heb. 4:14–16; Phil. 4:3.

REMIND THE DEVIL OF YOUR DESTINY

Are you ready to release a few arrows into the heavenly realm? If you’ve seen the movie, *Brave Heart*, you may remember a scene where the archers gathered and waited, and then suddenly released their arrows at the same time. Those fiery arrows lit up the whole sky! That’s what happens in the heavens as you make decrees.

It’s time to decree what God has promised you, and what He has said about you. It’s time to declare what the Bible and the prophetic words have said about you. You are going to make powerful prayers of proclamation—of decree! “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it” (Is. 55:11).

Start by reminding the devil about your destiny words from God. Speak all those prophetic words, visions, and revelations God has given you. Place a whole quiver of arrows (God’s promises) on your back. Ready?

Did God promise prosperity? Take your arrow, place it in your bow, and release it! Say, “Spirit of poverty, God has said I would prosper, ‘Beloved, I wish above all that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth’ (3 John 1:2, KJV). His word is true and you will not hinder me.” These are your words that you speak with priestly or kingly authority and the King of King’s word backs you up! “My God, you promised me healing and prosperity. You listen to me devil of poverty, devil of sickness—you will not prevail!” Shoot! Shoot! Prophecy! Prophecy!

Take out another arrow; load it in your bow, aim toward the heavens, and let that hindering devil know you are taking authority! "God's will is 'good, pleasing, and perfect!'" (Romans 12:2). Release God's promises in your life for revival, miracles, health, and salvation for loved ones. Release arrows against opposing forces. Shoot against religiosity! Shoot against unbelief! Shoot against apathy! "Father, I release revival!"

Keep shooting! Keep going, the heavens are opening. Grab another arrow out of your quiver, "Father, I want miracles! You promised miracles. Line up your sights, take aim, shoot, and say "Be healed in Jesus' name!" Then take authority against demons of infirmity, devils of sickness, every demon of disease.

Keep going! Don't stop! The weapons of our warfare are mighty through God! Take out an arrow for your family and say, "God, I want my household saved! I want my entire household saved, Jesus! I take aim against the god of this world that has blinded their hearts and minds. Father, I release and prophesy the arrow of the glorious Gospel of Truth, that it may pierce the hearts of those in my house." Now, for every person in your house you want saved, call them by name, and tell them to come out of darkness. Proclaim liberty to the captives. Hallelujah!

You are making known to demonic powers and principalities in the heavens your knowledge of the manifold wisdom of God.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN SUFFERS VIOLENCE

Many fail to understand and apply the principle of spiritual aggression as they contend for their destiny. We see this principle in Matthew 11:12: "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the *violent* take it by force." The context of the Greek word used for *violent* in this passage isn't the same usage we apply it to today, in the natural. Most violence today lands us in trouble! Rather, it describes a believer who is aggressive, zealous, and energetic in taking what has been made available to him or her.

In this passage also, we are invited to seize the Kingdom of God! This means that the Kingdom isn't just going to "fall in our laps." We have to covet, then take, or seize, or lay hold of the Kingdom. The apostle Paul told the Corinthians to "covet earnestly the best gifts." Covet your promises, and what God has said about you! People pressed in to touch the hem of Jesus' garments. They cried out in loud voices until He stopped by. They tore roofs off houses to get healing for a loved one. Shoot those arrows, take the Kingdom of heaven by force! Be aggressive, be relentless. God won't reprove you for raising the roof! He won't admonish you for your intensity! Aim, and shoot those arrows of life. There's no limit on signs, wonders and miracles! Just press in and lay hold of them. Be earnest, be zealous. Never be satisfied. Birth your destiny. Your decrees carry weight to activate all of God's promises.

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